



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

July 7, 2014

Sarah McGinnis
Weaver Boos
1813 North Mill Street
Suite A
Naperville, IL 60563

RE: Charles J Miller Road
IDNR Project #1410256
County: McHenry

Dear Ms. McGinnis:

This letter concerns the consultation for natural gas pipeline replacement in McHenry County, Township 44 North, Range 8 East, Sections 2 and 3. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code Part 1075*.

Nicor Gas is proposing the installation of 6,620 linear feet of 2-inch, 4-inch, 6-inch, and 8-inch natural gas pipeline within existing road rights-of-way in McHenry, Illinois. The project area is located along Charles J Miller Road, IL Route 31, and Green Street. A portion of the project along Green Street and Miller Road is adjacent to Wheeler Fen Land and Water Reserve (LWR). By law, no adverse impact is allowed at this site, including no changes to current hydrology.

The contractor has agreed to:

- Install additional silt fence and orange construction fencing along the open trench areas and spoils to protect the LWR.
- Manage spoil materials to keep soil out of the LWR.
- Haul any trench dewatering offsite to avoid impacts to Wheeler Fen.
- Stage, store and fuel equipment away from the LWR. No equipment will be allowed within the LWR.
- Notify Steve Byers, Natural Areas Preservation Specialist with the IL Nature Preserves Commission, when the pre-construction meeting is scheduled so he can attend and provide information about Wheeler Fen.
- Have a frac out plan ready for areas of the project in which pipeline will be installed utilizing horizontal directional drilling
- Clean all equipment of weed seeds before it enters the work site (to prevent invasive plants from entering the LWR).
- Utilize additional erosion control matting along the project location to reduce/eliminate sedimentation and erosion from the project into the LWR.

The Department has the following additional recommendations for work in the vicinity of Wheeler Fen:

- To ensure the protection of amphibian and reptile populations, the Department recommends erosion control matting that is either biodegradable parallel threads only, biodegradable flexible rectangular grid netting, or is net free.
- Monitor erosion control measures to ensure they are keeping all siltation out of the reserve.
- Use a seed of local genotype when planting at project completion; continue to inspect erosion control measures until the soil is stabilized.

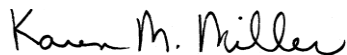
Consultation under *17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075* is completed. In accordance with *17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h)*, please notify the Department of your decision regarding the additional recommendations.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Sincerely,



Karen Miller
Division of Ecosystems and Environment
Phone (217) 785-5500
karen.m.miller@illinois.gov

cc: Valerie Njapa, IL Nature Preserves Commission
Steven Byers, IL Nature Preserves Commission